

UMS students can return home

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KOTA KINABALU: Some 1,000 students at the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) campus here cleared to return home may be able to get back to their hometowns before Hari Raya Aidilfitri and Kaamatan.

UMS Vice Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin said the university would try its best to have the matter resolved before the festivals concerned.

"We are currently arranging. After their swabs are taken and are negative (of Covid-19 infection), we will release them," he told a press conference after presenting on behalf of UMS a Covid Sampling Chamber to the State Health Department at the Luyang Health Clinic, Tuesday.

The RM20,000 mobile chamber was developed by the Jabatan Pembangunan dan Penyelenggaraan and UMS Hospital (HUMS).

On the mobile chamber, Dr Taufiq said

it was the first completed unit to provide a convenient and safer chamber for health personnel to take swab samples, whilst reducing the use of personnel protective equipment (PPE).

"It is the first of its kind, which is mobile, much smaller and light compared to the others. We plan to develop five more such chambers for HUMS, because we are also taking swab samples there at our hospital," he said.

State Health Director Dr Christina Rundi thanked UMS and all those involved in developing the sampling chamber. She said the use of the chamber would help to reduce the use of PPEs, as in Sabah some 5,000 PPEs were used daily.

"The use of this chamber will definitely help us to reduce the use of PPEs in Sabah, so we are very grateful with the collaboration and contribution of UMS," she said.

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Taufiq looking at a demonstration on how swab samples are taken using the mobile chamber.